Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method for predicting a future quality of a communication channel comprising:

receiving a downlink data communication;

performing at least one current quality measurement on ~~said~~ the downlink data communication to determine the current quality of ~~said~~ the downlink data channel;

deriving, based on ~~said~~ the current quality, a predictive channel quality indication (CQI) estimating the future quality of ~~said~~ the downlink data channel on a per time slot basis; and

transmitting ~~said~~ the predictive CQI, wherein ~~said~~ the predictive CQI includes at least one of a recommended transport block size, modulation format, or number of codes.

2.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, further including storing ~~said~~ the at least one current quality measurement.

3.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 2, wherein ~~said~~ deriving the predictive CQI ~~step further~~ includes retrieving at least one stored quality measurement and utilizing ~~said~~ the at least one stored quality measurement and ~~said~~ the at least one current quality measurement ~~to derive said predictive CQI~~.

4.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, further including storing ~~said~~ <u>the</u> predictive CQI.

5.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ deriving ~~step~~ <u>the predictive CQI</u> utilizes a linear predictive algorithm ~~to derive said predictive CQI~~.

6. – 11. Canceled.

12.   (Currently Amended)   A method for providing predictive channel quality measurements of a downlink communication channel comprising:

monitoring said downlink communication channel;

performing at least one current quality measurement on ~~said~~ <u>the</u> downlink data communication channel to determine the current quality of ~~said~~ <u>the</u> downlink data channel;

deriving, based on ~~said~~ <u>the</u> performing <u>at least one current quality measurement (CQI)</u> ~~step~~, a prediction of the future quality of the downlink data communication channel on a per time slot basis; and

transmitting ~~said~~ <u>the</u> prediction, wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> prediction represents at least one of a recommended transport block size, modulation format, or number of codes.

13.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 12, further including storing ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one current quality measurement.

14.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 13, wherein ~~said~~ deriving ~~step~~ the prediction further includes retrieving at least one stored quality measurement and utilizing ~~said~~ the at least one stored quality measurement and ~~said~~ the at least one current quality measurement ~~to derive said prediction~~.

15.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 12, further including storing ~~said~~ the prediction.

16.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 12, wherein ~~said~~ the deriving ~~step~~ a prediction utilizes a linear predictive algorithm ~~to derive said prediction~~.

17. – 31.   Canceled.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for predicting a future quality of a communication channel comprising:

receiving a downlink data communication;

receiving a said pilot channel communication;

performing at least one current quality measurement on ~~said~~ the downlink data communication and ~~said~~ the pilot channel communication to determine the current quality of ~~said~~ the downlink data channel;

deriving, based on ~~said~~ the performing at least one current quality measurement ~~step~~, a predictive channel quality indication (CQI) estimates the future quality of ~~said~~ the downlink data channel on a per time slot basis; and

transmitting ~~said~~ the predictive CQI, wherein ~~said~~ the predictive CQI includes at least one of a recommended transport block size, modulation format, or

number of codes.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, further including storing ~~said~~ the at least one current quality measurement.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein ~~said~~ the deriving ~~step~~ a predictive CQI further includes retrieving at least one stored quality measurement and utilizing ~~said~~ the at least one stored quality measurement and ~~said~~ the at least one current quality measurement ~~to derive said predictive CQI~~.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, further including storing ~~said~~ the predictive CQI.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein ~~said~~ the deriving ~~step~~ a predictive CQI utilizes a linear predictive algorithm ~~to derive said predictive CQI~~.

37. – 39.   Canceled.